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02-0404

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CLASSIFICATION SECRET		
COUNTRY Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC 18th Inf Regt and other units in Stribro		25X1A
EVALUATION 25X1X	PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT November 1949 to March 1950		25X1A
DATE OBTAINED	25X1A	DATE PREPARED 24 April 1950
REFERENCES		
PAGES 425X1A	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	25X1
REMARKS		
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The following information was obtained on the 18th Inf Regt and other units stationed in Stribro (N 50/P 74):

1. 18th Inf Regt (until late November 1949):

a. superior headquarters: Infantry division in Pilsen (N 50/L 04).

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b.

c. traditional name: Lirsky.

d. disposition: Regt headquarters and regimental units in Stribro:

I Bn in Tachow (N 50/Pn54)

II Bn in Plana (N 50/P 55) and Chodova Plana (N 50/P 55)

III Bn in Bor (N 50/P 63)

e. Officers of the Regt Headquarters:

CO: Col Josef Suchomel, a communist (1)

1st CO: Lt Col Palecek

DOC officer: Maj Skrivanec

Education Officer: Capt Valicko, a Carpatho-Russian

Regimental surgeon: Maj Dr Rizka.

f. organization:

Regimental units:

SMG Co, commanded by Staff Capt Poucha

Tech Co, commanded by 2d Lt Bauer

Trans Co (2), commanded by Staff Capt Pech

HV Wpn Co (3), commanded by Maj Sip

Repl Tng Bn.

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I BN

CO: Staff Capt Pobes (also CO 1st Co)

The 1st Inf Co of the battalion was reinforced by a sub-machine gun platoon.

II BN

CO: Staff Capt Nekl (also CO 10th Co)

The battalion included the following elements:

6th through 8th Co, quartered in Chodov Plana castle,

9th Inf Co

10th HV Co, comprised of one mortar platoon, one infantry gun platoon and one AT gun platoon.

The 6th Inf Co was reinforced by a submachine gun platoon

III BN

CO: Maj Skrbek.

g. Authorized strength:

70 officers, about 130 NCOs and about 2,000 EM (4)

h. Nationalities and political attitude:

About two-thirds of the regiment were Czechs and one-third Slovaks.

About 30 percent of the EM were Communists.

i. Armament and equipment:

The infantry companies were armed with:

German Mauser rifles, model 98

Czech rifles, model 24

German rifles with telescopic sights, model 43

submachine guns of German, Soviet and British make

Czech light machine guns, model 26

German light machine guns, model 42

pistols of Soviet and German make

Bazookas.

A heavy company was usually armed with:

Two 80-mm mortars

Two 120-mm mortars (German and Soviet make)

Soviet 45-mm AT guns or 76.2-mm field guns.

The machine gun companies were armed with Czech heavy machine guns, model 37, transported on small carts drawn by one horse.

j. Training: Training was inadequate, [REDACTED]

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2. NCO school of the 18th Inf Regt (until early March 1950) (5)

a. Superior headquarters:

18th Inf Regt. The school also trained NCO candidates from a Pobezovice (M 50/P 61) battalion. (6)

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- b. [redacted]
- c. Location: Former Catholic **hostel**, where the SIG Co of the 18th Inf Regt was also quartered.
- d. Commanding officer: Maj Jirak (8)
- e. Organization: The school was organized as a training battalion of three companies.
- f. Strength: About 500 trainees. The current course was said to be longer than the preceding ones.
- g. Armament: Only light infantry arms.
- h. Training: A training course lasted four months.
- i. Nationalities and political attitude:
- 75 percent were Czechs and 25 percent Slovaks. All the instructors and about two-thirds of the trainees were communists.

3. Other Stribro units (until 5 March 1950):

Artillery troops were quartered in a barracks (9). The occupation of a Stribro cantonment was unknown. New barracks, to be completed in the fall of 1950, were being built on the western outskirts of the town.

The Tech Co of the 18th Inf Regt was billeted in the parsonage.

[redacted] Comment:

(1) Col Suchomel was, in 1948, instructor at the highest military academy in Prague. 25X1

(2) An infantry regiment has no transport company. [redacted] referred to the headquarters company which includes a motor transport platoon.

(3) The heavy weapons of an infantry regiment are concentrated in the heavy mortar company and the AT gun company. It is doubted that the regiment included an additional infantry gun company. The designation "heavy weapons company" is known only with organic infantry battalions of infantry regiments.

(4) Possibly the peace strength. However, most of the regiments are under strength, according to numerous reports, because many soldiers were detached for service with labor brigades.

(5) The NCO school is probably operated by the Stribro replacement training battalion.

(6) Very likely the 64th Inf Bn which is also a component unit of the 11th Div. A [redacted] report referring to the battalion as a regiment in January 1950 was questioned in the [redacted] Comment 25X1 to a previous report (10). The report indicates that the designation "64th Inf Bn" may still be the correct one.

(7) [redacted] the 18th Inf Regt on 1 October 1949, [redacted] (see para 1, b). 25X1

(8) Maj Jirak previously was CO of the I Bn in Tachov.

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(9) Presumably an artillery battalion of the Pilsen
2d Art Regt.

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(10)

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